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PATENT APPLICATION

3 31N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Examiner: J. Grant II

SUSÚMU SUGIURA ET AL.

Group Art Unit: 2612

Serial No.: 08/359,940

Filed: December 20, 1994

For: DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM

WITH COMMON CHANNEL FOR

IMAGE AND CHARACTER DATA) April 25, 1995

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents is found in the accompanying English abstracts and as follows:

Reference (1) relates to an apparatus which codes or decodes a color image with characters. In encoding, the color image is run-length encoded with color codes (Fig. 1b), run-length encoded with brightness codes (Fig. 1c) and run-length encoded with run-length codes (Fig. 1d). In decoding,

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gate 43 (Fig. 5) switches image data to which coded data is developed to thereby form a color image with characters.

Reference (2) describes that at a sender/station, character data from a keyboard and facsimile data from a reader are combined and sent, while at a receiver station, the combined data is separated into the character data and the character data is converted into facsimile data.

Reference (3) describes a character/image printing apparatus which receives character code data and image code data from a computer, develops in a memory unit a character image output from a font memory and a pattern image output from a disk memory in accordance with the character code data and the image code data, respectively, and obtains a print composed of an image and characters.

Reference (4) sets forth a transmission system in which image data and character data received through a common line are separated by a transmission control unit, and the image data and a character pattern according to the character code are combined and recorded at a desired position on a recording medium.

In Reference (5), image data (from a facsimile machine, for example) is converted into specified character codes such as #, % and ¥ and a space code by image data-character code converter, and the converted character codes and character data (from a keyboard, for example) are combined in a memory, and the combined data is transferred.

Reference (6) is directed to a laser recording apparatus which reproduces a picture image in a density covering a halftone of a recording medium by controlling an optical beam using pulse-amplitude modulation or pulse-width modulation, and reproduces characters in a binary density composed of the generally highest and lowest density levels of the recording medium.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 758-2400. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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